Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the title as follows:

~~CARRIER HAVING ALUMINA CARRIED THEREON, CATALYST ELEMENT, AND METHOD FOR PREPARATION OF CARRIER HAVING ALUMINA CARRIED THEREON~~

CARRIER HAVING ALUMINA COATED THEREON, CATALYST ELEMENT, AND METHOD FOR PREPARATION OF CARRIER HAVING ALUMINA COATED THEREON

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 12 through line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~(Comparative Example and Reference Example)~~

(Comparative Example)

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 2 through line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The above-obtained NO_x adsorption catalyst bodies 1, ~~2, 3(a) to 3(e)~~ 2(a) to 2(c), 3, 4, 5(a) to 5(e), 6, 7, and 8(a) to 8(m) were subjected to an accelerated durability test at 850°C for 30 hours in an electric oven with 10% of moisture.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 11 through line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

NO_x adsorption catalyst bodies 1, ~~2, 3(a) to 3(e)~~ 2(a) to 2(c), 3, 4, 5(a) to 5(e), 6, 7, and 8(a) to 8(m) and NO_x adsorption catalyst body 6 (Comparative Example) were examined for the degree of cracking after durability test, by appearance observation and fine structure

observation by electron microscope. Incidentally, as to the degree ofcracking, no crack was reported as 0 and generation of crack which was regarded to become a problem in practical application, was reported as 10; thus, the degree of cracking was evaluated in 11 levels. Further, initial flexural strength and after-durability-test flexural strength were compared. The results thereof are shown in Table 3.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 30, line 1 through line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

It is appreciated from Table 3 that each of NO_x adsorption catalyst bodies 1, ~~2, 3(a) to 3(c)~~ 2(a) to 2(c), 3, 4, 5(a) to 5(e), 7, and 8(a) to 8(m) (Examples 1 to 7) according to the present invention, as compared with NO_x adsorption catalyst body 6 free from alumina (Comparative Example), is low in cracking of carrier and also in reduction in strength. The results of Table 3 indicate that when alumina alone is disposed, use of an alumina sol, as compared with mixed use of an alumina powder and an alumina sol, tends to give a superior NO_x adsorption catalyst body. Among different alumina powders, use of organic binder gives no satisfactory effect as compared with no use of organic binder; and an α-alumina powder tends to give a superior effect as compared with a γ-alumina powder. As to firing conditions, firing at 1,200°C (a higher temperature) is preferred and two-times firing gives a superior result as compared with one-time firing. Further, it is clear that combined disposition of silica and alumina gives a superior NO_x adsorption catalyst body.